



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.: 10/075,786
Applicant: John E. Holland et al.
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Examiner: William H. Mayo III

Confirmation No. 9809

Docket No.: J3781-022 (24.1)
Customer No.: 26158

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF JOHN E. HOLLAND UNDER 35 U.S.C. 1.132

1. My name is John E. Holland and I am employed as President of JHRG, LLC ("JHRG"), assignee of the above-referenced patent application. My responsibilities include overall executive management of the company, overseeing production and sales. I am also a co-inventor of the invention claimed in the above-referenced pending U.S. patent application.
2. JHRG specializes in the production of engineered textiles with emphasis on high-performance fabrics. Our fabrics and products formed therefrom have been particularly successful commercially in the military engineered products market and in the commercial marine market. Each of the three principals (President, Vice President-Production, and Vice President-Sales) have had extensive careers within the textile industry.
3. JHRG is a small limited liability company (LLC) with 3 officers and an average of 35 employees. While one of the three officers has the title of Vice President-Sales, no personnel have sales responsibility specifically for our anti-chafe product. In addition to my

duties as president, I personally perform sales functions for the entire product line, which includes the line of anti-chafe protective covers and sleeves.

4. One of the products offered by JHRG is an anti-chafe protective cover or sleeve, which is the commercial embodiment of the invention disclosed and claimed in the above-referenced patent application. Specifically, the protective covers or sleeves are formed of high performance yarns having a tensile modulus equal to or greater than 150 grams/denier and a tenacity of equal to or greater than 7 grams/denier. These anti-chafe protective covers are for use on electrical cables, hoses, ropes, and the like, and are particularly useful in environments in which the cables, etc. are subjected to abrasion, chemical exposure, saltwater, or extreme weather conditions.

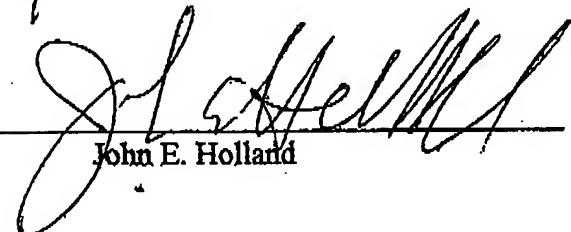
5. Prior to introduction of the anti-chafe cover, as claimed and described in the pending patent application, other protective sleeves and/or covers were being offered in the market for similar applications. As noted in my previous Declaration, protective covers for the same environments made of 1000 denier CORDURA® (nylon polymer) and similarly sized ballistic-grade nylon have been marketed for similar applications. By way of comparison, in a recent order our four foot long sleeve sold for \$104.00 (\$26 per foot). Aside from special orders, our sleeves, depending upon the rope diameter to be protected, are wholesale prices range from about \$15.50 per foot to about \$26.50 per foot. Based on the catalog of one retailer, covers formed from ballistic-grade nylon sell for between about \$3.75 per foot and \$5.50 per foot. Abrasion-resistant polyester covers sold by another retailer sell for around \$0.45 per foot. Triple-layered cotton duck canvas covers are offered at between about \$1.00 and \$1.32 per foot. Used fire hose, which has also been used in similar applications, sells for about \$5 per foot,

depending on the dimensions of the hose. Despite such wide differences in price, JHRG's covers continue to sell based on degree of protection offered, their durability, and their light weight.

6. In addition to more conventional uses in protecting mooring lines and hoses, our covers are also now used to protect the umbilical cords used by divers. Because our covers are two to ten times lighter than conventional materials, they have been found ideal for use on umbilical cords up to 200 feet long. Further, because the surfaces of our covers formed from SPECTRA® are slick, the covers slide with movement of the umbilical cords, thus not hampering movement of the divers.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that any statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

This is the 30th day of May 2006.


John E. Holland